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Message Text

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PLEASE PASS IMMEDIA * TO S/S FOR SEC*ETARY

HEREWITH EXCERPTS GEO*GE SHERMAN AND *ARRY KALB BYLINER*
FRONT PAGE TUESDAY, JANUARY 15 WASHINGTON STAR-NEWS
HEADED "SPYING PROBE WIDENED":

DEFENSE SECRETARY JAMES R. SCHLESINGER IS PERSONALL*
INVESTIGATING REPOR*S OF A MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OPERATION
IN THE WHITE HOUSE BACK IN 1971 AND EARLY 1972, ACCORDING
TO INFORMED OFFICIALS.

SCHLESINGER, WHO DID NOT BECOME DEFENSE SECRETARY
UNTIL LAST JUNE, HAS HAD SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH ADM.
THOMAS H. MOORER, CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF,
ABOUT THE ALLEGED SPYING THE SOURCES SAID.
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BUT SO FAR THE DEFENSE SECRETARY HAS FOUND NOTHING TO

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CONTRADICT MOORER'S DENIAL OF REPORTS THAT HE RECEIVED NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL DOCUMENTS STOLEN FROM HENRY A.*KISSINGER -- THEN NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER TO PR*SIDENT NIXON.

YESTERDAY, PENTAGON SPOKESMAN BRIG. GEN. DANIEL JAMES

REPEATED DEFENSE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT FOR ADM. MOORER'S PREVIOUS CHARACTERIZATION OF THE SPYING REPORTS AS "LUDICROUS AND RIDICULOUS."

BUT THE PENTAGON HAS REFUSED TO MAKE ANY OTHER PUBLIC STATEMENT. PRIVATELY, OFFICIALS SAY THAT SCHLESINGER IS TRYING TO FIND OUT EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED SO HE WILL BE PREPARED IF HE IS CAL*ED TO TESTIFY ON THE CASE BEFORE*CONGRESS.

SEN. JOHN STENNIS, D-MISS., CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE, TOLD REPORTERS YESTERDAY THAT HE WILL CONDUCT A PERSONAL INFORMED INQUIRY INTO THE REPORTS WHEN CONGRESS RECONVENES JAN. 21.

MEANWHILE, A POLL OF PERSONS WITH KNOWLEDGE OF THE ALLEGED NATIONAL SECURITY MATTERS APPEARED TO INDICATE THAT THE FULL STORY HAS YET TO BE TOLD, ALTHOUGH NOBODY INTERVIEWED WOULD PROVIDE ANY MORE DETAILS.

HOWEVER, IT APPEARS THAT BOTH THE MILITARY SPYING INCIDENT AND THE EXISTENCE OF PRO-AMERICAN SPY INSIDE THE SOVIET UNION ARE INVOLVED.

DAVID SHAPIRO, ATTORNEY FOR FORMER PRESIDENTIAL AIDE CHARLES W. COLSON, SAID THAT THERE IS MORE TO THE INCI-DENTS THAN HAS BEEN REPORTED IN RECENT NEWS ACCOUNTS, ALTHOUGH HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE SPYING BY THE MILITARY IS PART OF IT.

FRANK H. STRICKLER, ATTORNEY FOR FORMER PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT JOHN D. EHRLICHMAN, ALSO SAID THERE IS MORE "IF UNCLASSIFIED

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YOU KEEP POKING A**UND IN THIS AREA (THE SPYING), YOU MIGHT JUST PUT TWO AND TWO TOGETHER AND GET FOUR," STRICKLER SAID. "I DON'T THINK YOU'VE REACHED FOUR YET."

BOTH COLSON AND EHRLICHMAN FACE THE POSSIBILITY OF BEING INDICTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PLUMBERS-LED 1971 BURGLARY OF THE OFFICE OF DR. LEWIS J. FIELDING, DANIEL ELLSBERG'S FORMER PSYCHIATRIST.

THE WHITE HOUSE HAS SAID THAT THE PLUMBERS WERE AT-

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TEMPTING TO LEARN WHETHER ELLSBERG, WHO LEAKED THE

PENTAGON PAPERS TO THE PRESS, ALSO HAD LEAKED THE ALLEGEDLY HIGHLY SENSITIVE NATIONAL SECURITY MATTERS TO THE SOVIET UNION.

COLSON, SHAPIRO HAS CONFIRMED, HAS GIVEN THE SPECIAL WATERGATE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE A LENGTHY MEMO CONTENDING THAT IF COLSON WERE INDICTED, HE WOULD HAVE TO REVEAL THE FULL SOURCE OF THE SENSITIVE MATTERS IN HIS DEFENSE AND THAT THIS IN TURN WOULD ENDANGER NATIONAL SECURITY.

SEN. HOWARD H. BAKER JR., R-TENN., VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL SENATE WATERGATE COMMITTEE, ALSO SAID YESTER-DAY THAT THE FULL STORIES HAVE NOT YET BEEN TOLD.

BOTH BAKER AND THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, SEN. SAM J. ERVIN JR., D-N.C., HAVE BEEN INFORMED ABOUT THE SENSITIVE MATTERS. WHEN ASKED YESTERDAY IF THE STORIES ABOUT MILITARY SPYING SOUND LIKE WHAT HE AND ERVIN WERE TOLD, BAKER REPLIED, THAT SOME DO AND SOME DON'T.

BAKER ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE HAS INTERVIEWED DAVID R. YOUNG JR., FORMER CO-DIRECTOR OF THE PLUMBERS, "A COUPLE OF TIMES" TO ASK HIM ABOUT THE SENSITIVE MATTERS.

BAKER SAID HE HAD NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER THE MATTERS ARE SO SENSITIVE THAT, AS THE WHITE HOU*E CL*IMS, THEY SHOULD PRECLUDE ANY PROSECUTION IN CONNECTION WITH THE FIELDING BURGLARY.
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HE DID SAY, HOWEVER, THAT THE WATERGATE COMMITTEE MIGHT NOT BE THE APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL BODY TO STUDY THE MILITARY SPYING MATTER. "AT THIS POINT, IT SEEMS TO BE MORE IN THE JURISDICTION OF THE ARMED FORCES COMMITTEE," HE*SAID.

SAMUEL DASH, CHIEF COUNSEL*OF THE WAT*RGATE CO MITTEE, YESTERDA ;RULED OU ANY INQUI*Y INTO T*E ALLEGED *ILITARY SPYING *TELLING REPORTERS HAT HE A D ERVIN, BELIEVED THAT THE ISSUE " AS NOT RELEVANT T *THE BUSINESS OF THE COMMITT E."

ANOTHER SOURCE ON THE COMMITTE* SAID THE ACCOUNTS OF MILITARY SPYING ARE "WITHIN THE GENERAL AREA OF WHAT WAS TOLD TO US."

THIS SOURCE SAID THE ACCOUNT THE COMMITTEE WAS GIVEN

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"WAS IN NO WAY RELEVANT" TO THE WATERGATE BUGGING AND BREAK-IN OR THE SUBSEQUENT COVER-UP. HE SAID THERE WAS A "TANGENTIAL" NATIONAL SECURITY ELEMENT IN WHAT WAS RELAYED TO THE COMMITTEE.

WATERGATE SPECIAL PROSECUTOR LEON JAWORSKI REFUSED TO COMMENT ON THE MATTERS YESTERDAY, BUT IN PREVIOUS STATEMENTS HE HAS SAID THAT HE DOES NOT FEEL THEY WOULD HAVE ANY BEARING ON PLUMBERS PROCECUTION.

(REMAINDER OF ARTICLE REFLECTS POINTS PREVIOUSLY MADE IN OTHER MATERIAL ALREADY TRANSMITTED). RUSH

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